

Message Text

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10

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 DPW-01 AID-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAB-01

SAM-01 /088 W

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R 280642Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 805

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

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BEIRUT PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IZ, IR

SUBJ: FURTHER ON KURDISH REFUGEES

REF: TEHRAN 2790

1. UPDATING INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTTEL, AMCONSUL TABRIZ TELEPHONED EMBASSY MARCH 27 THAT INFLOW OF REFUGEES APPEARS TO BE BUILDING UP AND THAT HAMILTON ROAD WHICH ENTERS IRAN AT PIRANSHAHR IS BUMPER TO BUMPER WITH KURDS TRYING TO BEAT MARCH 31 DEADLINE. AFTER INITIAL PROCESSING MOST REFUGEES ARE ENTERING TENT CAMPS AT ZIVEH AND RABAT.

2. ASKED ABOUT PRESS REPORT THAT 7,500 REFUGEES HAD RETURNED TO IRAQ FROM ANZAL CAMP AND 1,800 MORE FROM CAMP AT SARAB-
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GARM, AMCONSUL SAID FIGURES WERE STILL GUESSWORK BUT HE

ESTIMATED ONLY SOME 5,000 HAD RETURNED. IRAQI RED CROSS DELEGATION SENT TO ENCOURAGE RETURN (REFTEL) FAILED TO MAKE MUCH PROGRESS AND IS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE IRAN MARCH 28.

3. AMCONSUL REPORTS THERE IS EVERY INDICATION IN KURDISTAN AND AZERBAIJAN THAT PEACE WILL HOLD. OFFICIALS THERE ARE UNANIMOUS THAT PESH MERGAH IS FINISHED AS ORGANIZED FIGHTING FORCE, ALTHOUGH SMALL UNITS UNDOUBTEDLY WILL CONTINUE TO RESIST AS GUERRILLA BANDS.

4. SENIOR RED LION AND SUN SOCIETY (RLSS) OFFICIAL TOLD PRESS THAT AS MARCH 31 DEADLINE APPROACHES NUMBER OF REFUGEES IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE FIVE-FOLD TO SOME 10,000 PER DAY. TO CARE FOR THIS INCREASE, RLSS HAS SET UP COMMITTEE TO COORDINATE RELIEF EFFORTS OF GOI MINISTRIES AND OTHER AGENCIES. GOI FIGURES DAILY COST PER REFUGEE IS 150 RIALS (DOLS2.25) WHICH INCLUDES ADMINISTRATION, FOOD AND HEALTH CARE. NEW REFUGEES PASS THROUGH TRANSIT CAMP FOR SCREENING AND VACCINATIONS AND ARE THEN SENT TO MORE PERMANENT TENT CAMPS. FIVE NEW CAMPS WERE ADDED LAST WEEK TO ELEVEN ALREADY ESTABLISHED. IN ADDITION, SEVEN MORE PERMANENT "NEW TOWNS" WHICH HAVE BEEN BUILT IN PAST EIGHT MONTHS ARE FINDING ROOM FOR SMALL NUMBER OF NEW ARRIVALS. RLSS OFFICER SAID REFUGEES AT THESE CAMPS GET TWO HOT MEALS DAILY; DIET INCLUDES AN EGG OR CHEESE FOR BREAKFAST, DAILY GLASS OF MILK FOR CHILDREN, AND AT LEAST 600 GRAMS MEAT PER WEEK.

HELMS

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